

105, 2170 - Sally Peters - 1926. 08. 27 -

EL MORICHAL
CRAGSMOOR
NEW YORK

pl

Dear Mr. Pfeiffer,

I send this by special, our mails being so erratic up here. Thanks for telegram. I am much shocked and concerned. In reading Simpson's plea I note he emphasizes something of which the men who came up here the other day made much, and of whom the spokesman was undoubtedly Burke. I see it continually referred to.

1. That Toolan had difficulty in gaining access to our house. Of course you know that is not so. At all times anyone representing the prosecutor was received at once and saw whichever member of the family he had to as soon as possible. Burke says Toolan states he telephoned me and made arrangements.

105.2470 p2
To the best of my recollection no one from that office ever telephoned but simply came up and was immediately admitted. My recollection is ^{F.} ~~she~~ ^{with} at once appeared and Toolan went up to the Study. With him was I think Fitzgerald. I am not sure if Totten accompanied him on this occasion but he may have. I was present all the time. Toolan looked annoyed but did not ask me to leave and in telling you of it afterwards you said always to stick by unless requested to leave the room. I know therefore how promptly and fully she answered all questions.

I am perfectly positive I never said she was ill for she was not.

2. Miss Emma Bugbee of the N.Y. Tribune who is a member of the League of Women Voters and friend of mine, told me she was the first Metropolitan reporter on the scene but declined to handle the case because of its nature. She described minutely to me the utter confusion, disorder and lack of

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guards there on the field. I am sure she would speak frankly to you and I think will tell you there was no card there. Many reporters told me it had been propped there later by a visitor as a practical joke and was not there in the beginning.

3. I think it was Vivian who told me that everything had been handed around until the finger prints of every man out there on the press were imprinted on the letters and that if finger prints were ever taken ~~it~~ all would appear. He, Riis, of course poor Sweeny, and I think Haggerty were the ones we knew best who were there from the start, the others all coming in later. Winkler too, of course, was there in the beginning and Boyden Sparks. These men some of them know about that card and not being on the case can speak. It too was handled.

Poor Willie, what a low type Simpson must be to
ridicule his appearance. Two or three generations
ago they had a Spanish grandmother, from Cadiz, and
Harry's father looked something like a very well
set up negro and was so dark as to be almost coffee
colored.

I do feel sorry for all the terrible strain
you are under. It relieved me beyond words to have
a moment with you and that day with Frances.

Mr. Palzer has most of the questions the three
men asked me. I sent you others and enclose rest
briefly. I am sure one was Burke, and the papers so
stated. A second a detective or policeman or trooper.
The third doubtless a man from the Mirror.

Sincerely yours

105.2170 p4

Aug. 27th. 1926.

Sacey Peters

105.2170

p5

Cragmoor

Ulster Co.

N.Y.

Dear Mr. Pfeiffer,

I asked Mr. Ricard Welling who is up here if he thought I had done the right thing about yesterday in relation to you and Mrs. Hall. He advises me, what I had suspected, that they could not very well subpoena me being out of the state and could only have me extradited as an accessory. He advised me to do what my instinct had already prompted me to do and give you a brief resume of questions and answers. I should, I suppose have had a copy of the statement but did not really think of it. My memory is good and I think I can give you everything. I was much surprised by the presence of three men, as if I were a dangerous and violent criminal, and as at no time you have been willing to have me come to N.Y. and talk with you I really was at sea as to the wisest thing to do, and while I should have been inclined to make no statement without your advice I felt from their attitude that the refusal of a statement was going to be considered prejudicial and might operate against Frances. You must not blame me. For I am so out of touch with you I did not know what was right to do and you have been so unwilling to tell me why you did not want me down there as to completely mystify me. You are perfectly aware that it is in the minds of most people and probably the prosecution I am considered accessory after the fact and I think should have advised me accordingly. Their gist of their questions is on separate page. In passing may I tell you that the story which a certain Prof. Mackinnie of New Brunswick (Rutgers) is circulating up here is that a club of well known men in N.B. Of whom Harry Carpenter was one, kept up the Phillips House was a resort for themselves where they kept their women, hence Harry's supposed knowledge of everything. This may have come to you.

Forgive me for calling your attention to a fact but Mrs. Gibson has stated according to the papers that four years ago she saw a woman with white hair standing at the scene of the crime. Four years ago F's hair was not white, merely streaked with grey. It has turned white since.

Sincerely yours

Aug. 19th. 1926.

Saez Pless

105.2170 p6

Questions and answers which they had me sign.

When I arrived in N.B.

F's first remark to me. "Said there was none. That she was too overcome with emotion but later spoke of her overwhelming grief.

How long Florance was in case. A. Until Tuesday, Sept. 19.

When you entered case. A. Sept. 28th.

When Martin did. A. Sept. 30.

I⁺ Di M. staid permanently in house. A. No.

Whose his helpers were. A. Did not know.

Q. If he went under name of Parker. A. No. Always Di M.

Q. When telephoned too if he was asked for under any other name.

A. Said we always spoke of him as Di M.

Q. If F. Has ever told me of relations existing between E. Mills and Edward. A. Never.

Q. If she knew of any such. A. "as sure not.

Q. If married life had been happy. A. Very.

Q. I⁺ I had gone abroad with her and staid how long. A. 3 Mos.

Q. If I were in charge of case in interim between Florance and you. A. Yes.

Q. If I had arranged interview between her and Toolan at house. A. Said I thought he simply came there and saw her and library.

Q. If Willie had been on scene of murder morning bodies were discovered.
NO.

The question they pressed on chiefly was Di Martini and tho they asked many more that I think are all in statement.

105. 2170
P7